FBIS DAILY REPORT

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VATICAN RELEASES COMMUNIQUE ON BEAGLE TALKS

PY262056 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1955 GMT 26 Feb 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Feb (TELAM)--The Vatican reported today that a catalog has been compiled of texts in which common positions or close approaches of the parties appear regarding the Argentine-Chilean border dispute in the southern zone. The communique reporting this was released in Rome by the Holy See, in Buenos Aires and in Santiago, Chile, at 1400 Argentine time. The text of the communique follows:

"In accordance with what was anticipated in the communique of 29 January, both the Chilean delegation and the Argentine delegation to the papal mediation in the dispute over the southern zone have studied and prepared during the first weeks of February, together with the mediator's representative, the subjects which have been discussed in more detail during the four joint meetings held between 18 and 22 February. Taking into account the negotiations held during 1978 by the Joint Commission No 2 formed according to the Puerto Montt Act, a thorough examination of several of the subjects then discussed has been undertaken. As a result of these works and of those carried out in the preceding months, a catalog has been compiled of texts in which common positions or close approaches of the parties on those subjects appear. The desire expressed by His Holiness Pope John Paul II in his speech to the two delegations on 27 September 1979 is thus being fulfilled. During the last of the joint meetings ideas were exchanged regarding the examination of subjects which would be subject to study with the aim of seeking new common ground within the general framework of the questions related to the dispute. A more specific determination of those subjects will be undertaken within the next few days for the purpose of permitting a more detailed examination during joint meetings to be held starting 24 March. The talks have been held in the customary atmosphere of cordiality, showing the desire of all participants to contribute to the success of the meetings and, consequently, of the mediation."

COLOMBIA RATIFIES AMAZON PACT; FURTHERS TIES WITH BRAZIL

PY261620 Paris AFP in Spanish 0409 GMT 26 Feb 80 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 25 Feb (AFP)--Colombia today submitted the instruments which ratify the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, the so-called "Amazon Pact," signed on 3 July 1978 by eight countries of the area. Venezuela is the only country still to ratify the pact. The other countries (Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Suriname) have already ratified it.

During the ceremony held on the occasion, Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro announced that a joint Colombian-Brazilian enterprise--which could have the cooperation of Spain--will be created to implement the bilateral accord on coal exploitation signed in 1978. This trilateral cooperation of private enterprises would be applied to the construction of a railroad to carry Colombian coal and also to the exploitation of this coal. Saraiva Guerreiro also said that if Colombia wishes, Brazil is ready for nuclear cooperation. The Brazilian foreign minister will pay an official visit to Colombia from 17-19 March, but he rejected the possibility that President Figueiredo would travel to Bogota this year. The minister extolled the "traditionally cordial" relations between Colombia and Brazil and stressed the "significant boost" experienced by these relations in the last few years. In turn, Colombian Ambassador to Brasilia German Rodriguez expressed satisfaction over the historic project launched by Brazil in starting the negotiations which led to the signing of the Amazon Pact.

VIDELA RECEIVES DRAFT REPLY TO IHRC REPORT

PY262105 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1539 GMT 26 Feb 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Feb (NA)--Government House reports that Foreign Minister Carlos Pastor submitted today to President Jorge Videla "a final draft reply" to the Inter-American Human Rights Commission (IHRC) report.

The official report adds that the document will be presented by Argentine OAS Ambassador Raul Quijano in Washington on 29 February.

NUCLEAR PLAN FACING SERIOUS FINANCIAL WOES

PY222153 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 22 Feb 80 p 5 PY

[Excerpts] Reliable sources indicated yesterday that economic and financial problems could paralyze the construction of the Embalse Rio III nuclear plant in Cordoba. The enterprise which will provide the reactor--which is Canadian-made--has asked to renegotiate the contract, claiming a "loss." The Argentine Government is currently studying the issue with the aid of its ambassador to Canada, Esteban Takacs.

The Argentine nuclear plan is facing its first serious threat because work on the nuclear plant which is being built at Embalse Rio III in Cordoba could be paralyzed. This would be caused by the failure of Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd [AECL]--responsible for supplying the reactor--to fulfill its contractual obligations, according to information released to CLARIN yesterday by reliable sources.

AECL--which is a joint state-private enterprise--is facing "severe economic and financial problems" related to its agreement with the Argentine Government, according to the same sources.

The sources explained that AECL's problems stem from the economic loss which the enterprise is experiencing as a result of the devaluation of the U.S. dollar, on which the terms of the contract are based.

According to the latest official estimate the "loss" amounts to approximately $40 million, and this figure may have increased in the past few months.

The sources pointed out that the problems arising from the contract signed between Argentina and Canada to build the Embalse Rio III plant are "chronic" and that the terms of the contract should have been renegotiated at the end of 1976.

The Argentine representative in Ottawa has reportedly received a Canadian proposal to submit the economic terms of the contract to new negotiations.

The sources estimated that despite the problems arising from the current situation the "renegotiation" is feasible in view of the interest which both countries have in the project.

Argentina does not wish to run into obstacles which could delay the various stages of its nuclear plan, and for Canada the continuation of construction means that several thousand jobs will be preserved, thus avoiding new domestic problems for the new Liberal government headed by Pierre Elliot Trudeau.

GUEILER PROMISES REORGANIZATION OF CABINET

PY261522 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 26 Feb 80 PY

[Text] President Lidia Gueiler has promised a prompt reorganization of the cabinet to find a solution to the current political vacuum and to facilitate the electoral process. President Gueiler stated the constitutional government's position during a meeting at Government House called by the president with all political leaders of the country. Authorized sources said the official decision was conveyed to political party representatives indicating that the decision may meet the political parties' demand that a government capable of guaranteeing the elections be formed.

INTERIOR MINISTER CALLS POLITICAL PARTIES IRRESPONSIBLE

PY261523 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 26 Feb 80 PY

[Excerpts] Interior Minister Jorge Selum Vaca Diez has labeled irresponsible the political parties' failure to attend a meeting called by the president to discuss a final strategy to carry out the electoral process. The majority of political organizations and coalitions refused to take part in the second meeting with the chief of state. The interior minister indicated that this does not harm just the president, but the Bolivian people in general. Selum, visibly angry, said:

[Begin Selum recording] I believe that the heads of political parties made a mistake because it is not the president who loses, but the entire country and the democratic process. They have the obligation, along with the president, to search for and study a way to carry out the elections, and this is a commitment to the Bolivian people. [end recording]

The hesitancy of some political parties to attend a meeting sponsored by the Interior Ministry can create problems in the formation of the national Electoral Court and the promulgation of the electoral law currently under study in the national Senate. This information was provided by Interior Minister Jorge Selum Vaca Diez, who said that the meeting called for in his office is aimed at providing effective support to good general elections planned for 29 June.

Begin Selum recording The ministry I preside over has called for this (?extensive) meeting with the belief and assurance that by this time the Chamber of Deputies will have ready all the reforms and changes it hopes to make in the electoral law. According to the electoral law, the national electoral court must be made up by 29 February. Otherwise, elections could not be held at the established time, and that is why the Interior Ministry has called this meeting, so the political parties could name the president and members of the national electoral court. [end recording].

The interior minister also gave assurance that Victor Paz Estenssoro, head of the National Revolutionary Movement, MNR, has no influence in the current constitutional regime to either advance or postpone the forthcoming June elections.

DIRECT ELECTIONS FOR GOVERNORS, SENATORS ANNOUNCED

FY270009 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 26 Feb 80 FY

[Excerpt] Justice Minister Ibrahim Abi-Ackel stated this afternoon that the government will forward a constitutional amendment proposal to Congress reestablishing direct elections for state governors in 1982, and for federal senators at the end of the current terms of the appointed senators.

The justice minister explained the government amendment proposal in this manner: [Begin Abi-Ackel recording] It was decided during today's meeting to forward to Congress a constitutional amendment proposal, to be prepared within the next few hours, seeking to solve two main points: first, to reinstate the direct secret vote in the text of our constitution for the election of future state governors; and second, to restore the republican desire to hold direct secret-vote elections for the senators of the republic. [end recording]

SARAIVA SAYS 'NO OBJECTIONS' TO SELLING ARMS TO PRC

FY270140 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 26 Feb 80 p 5 FY

[Text] Foreign Minister Saraiva Querreiro stated yesterday in Brasilia that the Brazilian Government will have no objections to selling weapons and military equipment to the PRC, if there is interest expressed by that country. "After all, it is not the weight of our weapons which will unbalance the strategic equilibrium in the east or elsewhere in the world," the minister stated. He emphasized, however, that the Chinese delegation which is visiting Brazil has no official status. "Their contacts have been more at the level of EMBRAER [Brazilian Aeronautics Company] and ENGESA [Specialized Engineers Corporation]. On 5 March, the delegation will be in Brasilia, where they have a meeting scheduled with Paulo Tarso Flecha de Lima, head of the Trade Promotion Department, and meetings at military ministries and the EMFA [Armed Forces General Staff]. It is difficult to predict whether the Chinese delegation's visit will have an immediate effect on Brazilian exports to the PRC," Saraiva Querreiro stated.

NICARAGUA'S D'ESCOTO ARRIVES FOR THEOLOGY CONGRESS

FY261940 Paris AFP in Spanish 1657 GMT 26 Feb 80 FY

[Text] Sao Paulo, 26 Feb (AFP)--Priest Miguel d'Escoto, Nicaragua's foreign minister, arrived here today to participate in the international ecumenical congress on theology.

This congress, which started last week under the sponsorship of the ecumenical association of theologians of the Third World, is being attended by approximately 160 representatives from Asia, Africa and Latin America.

BRIEFS

NEW OIL DISCOVERY--The Brazilian Petroleum Corporation [PETROBRAS] has announced the discovery of a new deposit in the Amazon River basin, 150 km north of the city of Marapanim, Para State. PETROBRAS regards this deposit, which is expected to yield 300 barrels of light oil daily, as the largest discovered in the region. [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 24 February 24 Feb 80 p 1 FY]

DEMONSTRATORS DISRUPT PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH

PA232027 Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Pereira, Colombia--In an action unprecedented in his tenure as chief of state, President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala canceled the events scheduled for Risaralda Department after trying to address citizens in La Virginia, where he was to dedicate a road that cost $122 million pesos.

The incident occurred while the president began delivering his speech, when a group of demonstrators started shouting political slogans and demanding the dismissal of Risaralda Governor Jose Ramon Ortega, a member of the Conservative Party's Alvarist faction.

Losing his traditional patience, the president left the platform, pushed his way through the crowd, sought refuge in one of the official vehicles and immediately left for the airport to catch the plane that was to take him to Quibdo, Choco Department, where he will dedicate several public works.

Newsmen have been informed that a government communique on the situation will released this afternoon.

GOVERNMENT MINISTER DEFENDS TURBAY ACTIVITIES

PA221958 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Government Minister German Zea Hernandez in Bogota has defended President Julio Cesar Turbay against criticism and charges that he has been engaging in politics with his constant trips to far-off places in the country.

Zea was responding to Regina Bethancourt de (Lizca), candidate to the [Bogota] Council. He said that President Turbay carried out official acts in Medellin and discussed international affairs of importance for the country, which dispels charges that he has been directly or indirectly engaging in politics.

BRAZILIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT 16-19 MARCH

PA251958 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Feb 80 PA

[Text] The Colombian Government today confirmed that Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro will visit the country from 16-19 March. A Foreign Ministry communique reports that the distinguished visitor will come to Bogota to discuss several issues of bilateral interest with his Colombian counterpart.

The text of the communique is as follows:

The Foreign Ministry hereby announces that the national government has invited His Excellency Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, Brazilian Foreign Minister, to visit our country. He accepted the invitation and will come to the country on 16 March to discuss issues of top interest for the two nations with his Colombian counterpart.

MINISTER ANNOUNCES INCREASED OFFSHORE OIL EXPLORATION

PA210446 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2330 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Natural Resources Minister Jose Corsino Cardenas has said Ecuador will negotiate with transnational firms for new petroleum prospecting.

He made this announcement during a visit to the prospecting project in the Manabi Province coastal waters being carried out by the U.S. Western [words indistinct] which has a specially equipped vessel for this purpose. The minister said exploration on land and at sea is for the purpose of doubling the proven hydrocarbons reserves during the present administration.

He said we have advanced 18 percent of the way in a few months. Since December 1979 reserves have increased by 186 million barrels due to wells drilled by the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation in the eastern jungles.

From the Lago Agrio field in this region comes the present production, limited to 200,000 barrels a day, of which one-third is exported.

Fuel consumption in Ecuador is growing by 18 percent a year, according to official estimates, and could put an end to exports by the end of this decade. This is why the government is urgently seeking other fields as productive as those already in operation.

Cardenas has also implemented a campaign to eliminate large-scale fuel smuggling.

Cardenas asked Ecuadoreans to cooperate in the war on smuggling and said it is not fair for the government to keep fuel prices low if this only enriches smugglers.

The best-quality gasoline is sold at the equivalent of 22 cents a gallon.

BRIEFS

1979 OIL PRODUCTION--Quito, 6 Feb (EFE)--Ecuador produced 78 million barrels of oil during 1979, of which 53 percent was exported and 47 percent consumed locally. This data has been released by the Natural Resources Ministry. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 1019 GMT 6 Feb 80 PA]

BANK PRESIDENT--Former Government Minister Roberto Dunn Barreiro will be the president of the Bank of Development of Ecuador [Banco de Desarrollo del Ecuador]. This bank has the task of concentrating, coordinating and distributing resources directed at financing projects that develop the public sector. [Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Feb 80 PA]

EEC DONATION--The European Economic Community has donated 100 million sucres to the Ecuadorean Institute for Water Resources, thus fulfilling a technical and financial cooperation agreement with this European organization for the execution of the Chambo irrigation project in Chimborazo Province. [Text] [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Feb 80 PA]

ZAMBRANO VIEWS SURINAME, NEGOTIATIONS WITH CUBA

PA270118 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Interview with Foreign Affairs Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco granted to newsman Euclides Perez on 26 February in Caracas--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Does the Venezuelan Foreign Affairs Ministry know what the ideological position of the new ruler in Suriname is?

[Answer] We absolutely do not know anything. In the first place, we do not know who the new rulers in Suriname are because nothing has been said to this effect. We simply know that the situation there is difficult and complicated and still not clear. For this reason, we cannot pass judgment regarding the persons leading the movement in that country.

[Question] Will Venezuela recognize the new government?

[Answer] As I said before, we are waiting for official information before deciding what our position will be. So far, the reports we have received from our embassy in Suriname have said that fighting was continuing in the streets at 1100 today between the police forces and the army. The report we received this morning stressed the fact that the situation was not clear, and that there was no knowledge of the whereabouts of Prime Minister Henck Arron.

[Question] Could you tell us what the situation is at the embassy in Cuba?

[Answer] As you know, our government is engaged in negotiations and until they are completed, we cannot say what the situation is.

[Question] What type of negotiations are being held with the Cuban authorities?

[Answer] We are asserting the right of asylum.

[Question] Has the Cuban Foreign Relations Ministry shown any intention of granting safe-conducts to the refugees?

[Answer] Yes, it has said it is willing to.

PRESIDENT HERRERA TO ADDRESS NATION 12 MARCH

PA270126 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Text] President Luis Herrera Campins is working on his state of the union address, which he will deliver to the nation on 12 March, the first anniversary of his administration. On the same day, he will announce changes in the cabinet, in state institutions and governors.

COSTA RICA

GUERRILLA SEARCH ALONG PANAMA BORDER CONTINUES

PA260419 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0030 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Public Security Minister Juan Jose Echeverria Brealy said today that the Panama border area will be searched for possible guerrilla camps. He said that for this reason no deadline has been set to suspend the search to determine the existence of armed groups on our southern border.

More than 200 men for more than 1 week have thoroughly searched every place where it would be possible to establish a camp. These operations are being carried out in coordination with the Panamanian National Guard, with whom close communications are being maintained.

The public security minister said today that not all weapons which are in the country were exhibited to the legislative commission that is investigating possible militarization of Costa Rica. He added that every Civil Guard post has weapons and a large quantity is being used by the men searching the border. He added that he is in favor of purchasing more arms, especially .38 revolvers.

EL SALVADOR

HIGH COMMAND 'BLOCKING' JUNTA'S PROMISED CHANGES

PA262355 San Salvador EL INDEPENDIENTE in Spanish 26 Feb 80 pp 1, 8 PA

[Excerpt] The Salvadoran Armed Forces High Command is apparently blocking the efforts of the ruling civilian-military junta to carry out the promised changes aimed at ending an acute political crisis, government sources noted on Thursday.

The same sources indicated that the High Command, made up of about eight colonels, has successfully neutralized a group of young reformist officers and is now concentrating its efforts on disbanding the leftist guerrilla groups and their political fronts, rather than supporting political changes. At the same time, the sources said, the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], which agreed to join the government coalition 7 weeks ago in exchange for an army commitment to carry out general changes, is becoming increasingly isolated, condemned by the leftwing and conservatives outside the government and incapable of imposing its view on the junta.

The junta is made up of two colonels, two PDC politicians, and one independent member. However, it has been compelled to consult constantly with military leaders on proposed changes, the most outstanding being the nationalization of the banking and foreign trade sectors and the confiscation of large farms, to be distributed among landless peasants.

ARMED FORCES REAFFIRM SUPPORT FOR JUNTA

PA262121 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1757 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Armed Forces message issued in San Salvador on 26 February]

[Text] In view of the dastardly slaying of Dr Mario Zamora Rivas, attorney general of the poor, the Salvadoran Armed Forces state:

1. They condemn the action taken by those who, moved by the darkest reasons, are leading the country to disaster by masterminding and taking actions that contribute merely to the intensification of the climate of violence here and the political and economic crisis that makes the life of Salvadorans more difficult every day.

2. They confirm the commitment made in their 13 October 1979 proclamation to support the process of structural changes undertaken regardless of the forces bent on changing the course of the process, particularly the selfless minorities which from time immemorial have had privileges which they are still obstinately defending even by the most unscrupulous means.

3. In keeping with the foregoing statement, the armed forces reiterate their full support for the incumbent Revolutionary Government Junta and reject the maneuvers geared to cause destabilization, undermine the principle of authority and promote the rebellion of the aforementioned sectors against the power of the state and the law.

4. They confirm their determination to insure public order and the safety of the people. Thus, they call on all social sectors here to unite to halt violence. Let us make one big effort to achieve peace, respect for the norms guiding our existence and devotion to work as basic conditions to bring back to our country the dynamism and welfare for which most Salvadorans long.

FRG EMBASSY TO REMAIN OPEN; AMBASSADOR TO LEAVE

PA262108 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1725 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 26 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--The FRG Embassy in San Salvador will remain open but the ambassador will leave the country.

FRG Ambassador Joachim Neukirch said that the announced withdrawal of the embassy will not take place and that only he will leave the country. The rest of the diplomatic and Salvadoran personnel in the embassy will continue to provide their services in the same location. Neukirch said his departure is due to "negative events which have occurred in El Salvador."

SOMOZISTS BLAMED FOR DEATH OF FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL

PA261943 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Report from El Salvador by William Grigsby]

[Text] Former Somozist guardsmen continue to add crimes to the lengthy file of assassinations which they left in Nicaragua.

The Salvadoran radio station Radio Cadena Central has reported that former Somozist guards, supported by reactionary sectors, were responsible for the death of Dr Mario Zamora. The station added that the government of deposed Col Carlos Humberto Romero had contracted with former Somozist guardsmen, assigning them to various military headquarters in different parts of El Salvador.

Doctor Zamora served as attorney general. The Christian Democrats issued a pronouncement, which was later supported by San Salvador Archbishop Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero, blaming Maj Roberto D'Aubuisson for his assassination. D'Aubuisson, a retired military officer who is accused of leading the main rightist paramilitary organizations, had charged some days before that Doctor Zamora had links with guerrilla groups. Zamora responded by filing a civil suit against his detractor for damages.

KILLINGS, STRIKES, OCCUPATIONS CONTINUE

PA262319 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1940 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 26 Feb (LATIN)--Seven bodies were found last night and today in violence-torn Chalatenango Department in the northern part of the country and in this capital, the police reported.

An official spokesman said that all of the bodies had bullet wounds. Four bodies were found at a spot 9 km from San Salvador. Sources say they have not yet been identified. Within this violence-torn country, Chalatenango has the highest violence rate, official sources said. In this department, two forces are inconflict. They are the leftist so-called Christian Salvadoran Peasants Movement and the rightist Nationalist Democratic Organization.

Meanwhile, the 28 February People's Leagues [LP-28] continue to occupy the central market in San Salvador where they hold some 20 hostages. Spokesmen of the LP-28, which had occupied the Guatemalan and Panamanian embassies, demanded lower taxes, improvement of the market's hygienic conditions and better working facilities. When the LP-28 occupied the embassies they demanded the release of comrades arrested in clashes with security corps.

Meanwhile about 200 Salvadoran bank employees went on strike today to demand salary increases. All the bank employees are at their posts but not working.

About 200 employees of the National Telecommunications Administration continued a slowdown today that began last week.

BANK EMPLOYEES CALL INDEFINITE STRIKE

PA262320 San Salvador Radio Cadena Central in Spanish 1550 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Salvadoran bank workers have called an indefinite strike. Our sources said the action was taken because the banking institutions have not agreed to the list of demands presented several days ago by the organization representing banking employees. They also noted the strike is being staged at the main and branch offices throughout the country for an indefinite period of time.

ARMY KILLS 15 ERP TERRORISTS IN CLASH

PA262350 Paris AFP in Spanish 2331 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 26 Feb (AFP)--It was reported here today that 15 members of the clandestine leftist Revolutionary People's Army [ERP] were killed today in a clash with the Salvadoran Army in Santo Domingo de Guzman in the department of Sonsonate, 76 km north of San Salvador. Three soldiers were wounded in the clash with the guerrillas.

POLICE CAPTURE MAJOR REVOLUTIONARY LEADERS

PA270443 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 27 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Juan Chacon, secretary general of the Peoples Revolutionary Bloc, and Carlos Argueta, a member of the 28 February People's Leagues' Political Commission, were captured this morning by the Salvadoran police.

The Revolutionary Mass Coordinating Board announced the capture of the two Salvadoran revolutionaries at a news conference.

Argueta directed the seizure of the Spanish and Panamanian embassies last month. Chacon and Argueta were captured when a patrol, by chance, stopped the taxi they were riding in. At the time the police did not know who they were.

Salvadoran police have also captured Chacon's wife and child.

According to confidential sources, three of those captured will be turned over to the common courts next week.

BPR REPRESENTATIVE INTERVIEWED ON REVOLUTIONARY TACTICS

PA262106 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0030 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Interview with presumed representative of the People's Revolutionary Bloc in direct broadcast from San Salvador--presumably live]

[Text] [Presumed representative of the People's Revolutionary Bloc] Our government program will be presented tomorrow. This program will be prepared by the National Coordinating Board.

[Question] But would you apply this program when you stage a coup d'etat, or will you give this program to the present junta?

[Answer] No. We will not give it to the present junta. We are announcing it to our people and the people of the world.

[Question] But when do you believe that you will be in power?

[Answer] That depends on the objective conditions and on our people.

[Question] Is the civil war already declared or not?

[Answer] We have been in a state of war for many years, is that not right? It is not like they wish to make things appear, that there is a civil war. The truth is that we have been at war for a long time.

[Question] Will you continue the tactic of occupying the embassies of democratic countries?

[Answer] We use that tactic only to highlight our situation to the peoples of the world, because all our news is distorted abroad.

[Question] What other kind of repressive activity will be used other than the occupation of embassies?

[Answer] At this moment, we have no plans to occupy any embassy.

[Question] What do you have in mind?

[Answer] At this moment, what we have in mind is to promote the democratic, revolutionary plan of government which will be presented tomorrow to our people and to the peoples of the world.

[Question] Does this mean that for a few days El Salvador will have peace?

[Answer] This will depend on the answer given by our enemy.

REPORT RELEASED ON LEFTIST GROUPS' JOINT PROGRAM

PA270424 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2215 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Report from San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU by newsman Carlos Samayoa Martinez, no date given--recorded]

[Text] Dear listeners, ladies and gentlemen of Panama City Domestic Service; from San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU, this is Carlos Samayoa Martinez greeting you, to read you portions of the program platform of the Democratic Revolutionary Government issued at noon today at El Salvador University Law School during a meeting held by the Nationalist Democratic Union [UDN], the United Popular Action Front [FAPU], the People's Revolutionary Bloc [BPR] and the 28 February People's Leagues [LP-28]. These four groups have submitted to newsmen a program platform of the Democratic Revolutionary Government. To summarize, among talks and objectives of the revolution, they mention firstly the overthrow of the military reactionary dictatorship of the oligarchy and U.S. imperialism, imposed and sustained against the will of the Salvadoran people for the past 50 years. Another objective is to definitely abolish the country's economic, political and military dependence on U.S. imperialism.

Among immediate measures they refer to in the political aspect are the following: cessation of repression against the people in every form and freedom of political prisoners; explanation of the whereabouts of prisoners and persons missing since 1972 and punishment of persons responsible for crimes against the people; disarming and disbanding of the repressive forces--the National Security Agency of El Salvador, the Nationalist Democratic Organization, the National Guard, the National Police, the Internal Revenue Police, the Customs Department Police and their respective special sections, the Counterinsurgency School located in Gotera, and the so-called Armed Forces Engineering Training Center in Sacatecoluca. All present state branches--executive, legislative and judicial--must be dissolved. The Constitution and all decrees amending or replacing it must be abolished. The Democratic Revolutionary Government will issue a constitutional law and it will organize the state and its activities to guarantee the people's rights and freedoms and other objectives and tasks of the revolution. In this respect, the Democratic Revolutionary Government will adhere to the United Nation's universal human rights declaration. It will strengthen and develop the People's Army by incorporating noncommissioned officers, officers and chiefs of the current army who maintain a clean conduct record, reject foreign intervention against the revolutionary process and support the liberation struggle of our people.

Our country will be withdrawn from the Central American Defense Council, the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty and any other military or police organization which is an instrument of intervention.

The Democratic Revolutionary Government will establish diplomatic and commercial relations with other countries without discrimination as to social systems, based on equal rights, mutual coexistence and respect for self-determination. Special attention will be given to the development of friendly relations with the other countries of the Central American area, including Panama and Belize, for the purpose of strengthening peace and the exercise of the principle of nonintervention. Fraternal relations with Nicaragua will be given special attention, as an expression of common ideals and interests between our revolution and the Sandinist revolution.

Our country will join the nonalined countries movement and it will develop a policy invariably affiliated with the defense of world peace and in favor of detente.

The Democratic Revolutionary Government will proceed to nationalize the banking and financing system.

This measure will not affect people's deposits and interests. It will nationalize foreign commerce, the electric power distribution system and electric power plants owned by private enterprise, and oil refining. It will expropriate in the state's interest the monopolistic enterprise of industry, commerce and services. It will implement a thorough agrarian reform which will place the land, presently held by big landowners, at the service of large sectors of the population who work on it. In the social aspect, the Democratic Revolutionary Government will guide its efforts toward creating enough jobs, making an effective just wage policy and substantially increasing social services for the people.

This is in summary the program platform of the Democratic Revolutionary Government issued at noon today by groups which form the Revolutionary Coordinating Board of the Masses--the UDN, FAPU, the BPR and the LP-28.

ARCHBISHOP ROMERO CONDEMNS DEATH THREATS

PA242304 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2137 GMT 24 Feb 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 24 Feb (LATIN)--Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero today charged in his Sunday sermon that unidentified individuals threatened him with death this past week.

The archbishop delivered his sermon at the Sacred Heart Basilica rather than at the cathedral because although the latter has already been evacuated by the group that occupied it for several weeks, it has not yet been cleaned up, he explained.

Over 2,000 showed up at church. Hundreds of them recorded the sermon at the archbishop's request because La Voz Panamericana is off the air after a bomb destroyed its equipment Monday.

According to Monsignor Romero, beginning next Sunday his sermon will be broadcast on Radio Noticias del Continente, a Costa Rican station.

MNR LEADER VIEWS PRESENT SITUATION, NEW PROPOSALS

PA221350 San Salvador EL INDEPENDIENTE in Spanish 21 Feb 80 pp 1, 16 PA

[Excerpts] Christian democracy in El Salvador has failed to control the country's current crisis and is facing the most difficult moment of its alliance with the armed forces. This was said to EL INDEPENDIENTE by two members of the National Revolutionary Movement (MNR).

Hugo Navarrete, organization secretary of the MNR National Executive Committee, and Enrique Barrera, research and fitness secretary of the MNR National Executive Committee, who made the above statement, added that the situation is going from bad to worse and it may lead to another wave of repression depending on the groups which control the situation.

At the international level, specifically in Latin America, the United States is currently making every effort to prevent the collapse of Christian Democracy in El Salvador. For this purpose it has made military agreements with some countries, such as Venezuela, to have the United States intercede in restoring peace in Central America, especially in El Salvador. MNR leaders said that they are definitely opposed to any form of U.S. intervention in their country.

"The situation has reached a stalemate and the right could seize control of the situation," MNR leaders pointed out.

Regarding other solutions, they said that the United States and the army are trying to form another coalition government. Some of their alternatives would be to form a government composed of technocrats--that is, people who have no connection with political life--or a government which has representatives of the private enterprise sector, a sector that is considered to be less conservative than some others.

Another formula, they added, is the one suggested by the People's Coordination Committee. In this formula the government would be based on the unity of the people and democratic forces, a possibility which at this moment is starting to be realized.

The MNR leaders said that they will try to prevent the right from receiving any help from any international reactionary sectors. They also said they will try to promote public opinion favorable to the people's struggle and sacrifice.

This formula also includes leftist and revolutionary groups in the country. In other words, the MNR would define its international position and it already has shown that it is very strong. It would also seek to increase its influence with other people's groups. They said that the MNR believes that popular forces cannot be ignored at this moment in our country and that all people's organizations and democratic forces must participate in forming a government. They said they are making every effort to see that democratic organizations develop and that all the members of all popular organizations remain united.

COORDINATING BOARD DENOUNCES REPRESSION IN COUNTRY

PA252341 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 14 Feb 80 p 60 PA

[Advertisement by the Revolutionary Coordinating Board of the Masses, addressed to the people of El Salvador, Central America and the world: "The Repression Against the Salvadoran People Increases"]

[Text] The oligarchy, the fascist military officers and Yankee imperialism have not been able to stop the heroic struggle the Salvadoran people are waging as one more sign that they are not willing to surrender but to fight in a constant, combative and organized way until their final liberation.

The military dictatorship, now headed by rightist reformists, is continuing its war of extermination against the Salvadoran people. For this reason it has launched ferocious terror campaigns by carrying out military operations in Chalatenango, Aguilares, Cabanas, San Miguel and La Union resulting in dozens of persons arrested and peasants killed in cold blood by the army and the repressive organizations.

Grenade and bazooka attacks on churches have occurred for the first time in our country's history. The Salvadoran patriots have been denouncing the repressive nature of this regime and demanding justice from those churches for the Salvadoran people. These incidents demonstrate the continuing repression launched by the Molina and Romero regimes, which has been increased by the present counterrevolutionary junta, thus imitating the Somozist dictatorship, which was also bold enough to attack and occupy churches.

The government's attempts to dismantle the popular organizations continue, as in the worst times of the Molina and Romero regimes. In this way several comrades of the Nationalist Democratic Union Party have been killed and the offices of the Peoples Revolutionary Bloc and the Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation attacked. [paragraph continues]

Several comrades, such as Rodolfo, Eduardo and Abilio, members of the 28 February People's Leagues [LP-28], have been killed by the National Guard and have been reported to the courts as missing in a flagrant violation of human rights and as another sign that the present military dictatorship continues with the most abominable methods. Our comrade Norma Guevara was captured during this campaign by the criminal national policy without an arrest warrant. Meanwhile, they allow the people's most hated war criminals--the ones who are responsible for massacres, kidnapings and murders--to freely wander the streets. These criminals include Maj Roberto D'Abuisson, who worked for the National Security Agency of El Salvador up to 15 October, Colonel Iraheta, General Medrano and others that the junta has not dared touch, showing the shady deal that the government has with the military tyranny and the oligarchy.

The democratic forces are being hit by the cynical military fascist tyranny in its effort to destroy all those who are valiantly opposing the interventionist plans of imperialism. Dr Martin Espinosa Alatamirano, member of the National Revolutionary Movement Party, was killed because his party refused to support the criminal counter-revolutionary junta.

However, the Salvadoran people are still on their feet, carrying on the heroic and prolonged struggle and showing their firm determination to free themselves from the hunger, misery and oppression they have been subjected to by the ruling classes. This is how they have promoted new occupations of ministries, embassies and churches in order to condemn the repressive wave encouraged by the present counterrevolutionary junta in clear complicity with the rightist sector of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC]. However, the response of the government junta and the repressive organizations led by the oligarchy has been an increase in their bloody repression.

Proof of this is the massacre carried out by units of the National Guard and police against a peaceful demonstration of high school students led by the movement of Revolutionary High School Students on Tuesday, 12 February, near the National Conciliatory Party building. This resulted in 4 comrades killed and more than 10 wounded. The comrades had vacated the Education Ministry and were withdrawing to celebrate the victory they had won.

This morning, in a provocative and criminal way, elements of the repressive organizations dressed in plainclothes burned the offices of the University Peoples Leagues, leaving them completely destroyed. The PDC offices were machinegunned while our LP-28 comrades were occupying them.

The Revolutionary Coordinating Board once more calls for the solidarity of all the nations of the world with our just struggle. We hereby request the presence of the OAS and UN human rights commissions in order to investigate these new crimes and kidnapings carried out by the infamous government junta. We are also demanding that all the people in the world and all the democratic governments condemn the bloody repression that our people and their organizations are currently suffering.

We urge the Salvadoran people to trust their revolutionary organizations and to participate in an active, increasing and consistent way in the struggle for liberation.

We urge the democratic organizations to join the broad popular unity that will win the justice and the true democracy that the Salvadoran people are hoping for.

Stop the repression against the people!

Let us all join in the struggle!

For the Revolutionary Coordinating Board of the Masses: the 28 February People's Leagues, the Peoples Revolutionary Bloc, the Nationalist Democratic Union Party, the United Popular Action Front. El Salvador, Central America, February 1980.

GUATEMALA

U.S. ACCUSED OF CONSPIRING AGAINST GOVERNMENT

PA262327 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Leonel Sisniega Otero, press secretary of the National Liberation Movement, accused the U.S. Government of conspiring against the Guatemalan Government. Sisniega Otero has requested that the government ask the U.S. Embassy here in Guatemala for an explanation.

INVOLVEMENT DENIED IN COUP PLOT IN EL SALVADOR

PA270018 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Text] (?according to a report) from San Salvador, a labor federation today charged that rightwing military officers are plotting a coup against the current government junta with the complicity of Guatemala and the advice of Israeli citizens. According to government spokesman Rolando Archila, this report is false and tendentious.

[Begin Archila recording] This (?charge) is not only false but tendentious as well, because it seeks to involve the Guatemalan Government in an action in which it is not now participating--in keeping with its policy, as I have already stated. This type of accusation seeks only to create problems for our country. Guatemala respects the internal problems of El Salvador and would never participate in an action of the type tendentiously mentioned by this organization. [end recording]

The report adds that Israeli advisers are training 700 mercenaries in Guatemala. Regarding this, Archila said that the people are familiar with the army's activities.

[Begin Archila recording] The people in general and the viewers of this program, which has a large audience, are watching the government's conduct in all areas. All its actions are there before the eyes of the people. Except for the regular activities carried out by our army, which as established by the Constitution has specific duties, no other type of activity is being carried out here in Guatemala. [end recording]

HONDURAS

U.S. WARNINGS ON NEED FOR CHANGE IGNORED

PA260004 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Feb 80 p 6 PA

[Editorial: "If El Salvador Falls, the Whole Isthmus Falls"]

[Text] The statement we are using for a title is not ours. It was made by a member of the Salvador civilian-military junta to describe the civil struggle going on between the Salvadoran Government and the leftist opposition ever since Gen Carlos Humberto Romero was overthrown.

"If El Salvador falls, the rest of Central America goes with it" is not as exaggerated as it may seem; it is part of a reality that is hard to analyze from abroad.

It is not because the Salvadoran reformist government does not have fighting resources, considering that it is the regular army which is involved, in alliance with the Christian Democratic Party in running the government. On the other hand, the opposition is made up of several leftist organizations of workers, peasants, professionals, and mostly that broad social sector known as the middle class, which in El Salvador is quite large.

It is not the kind of struggle in which one band clashes with another in the battlefield. It is a war of attrition, not just of material resources but also of human beings. It is a war of the unexpected, in which the regular army cannot use all its capacity. But the government must act within a certain limit so as not to violate human rights or to increase the hatred of social sectors which have not joined the struggle.

El Salvador is facing a struggle different than those of decades ago. It is not that the government is opposed to significant changes--it even suggests and leads them. But the opposition neither believes in nor wants reforms--it wants a social revolution. The struggle is between revolution and counterrevolution, a situation different than what we have in Honduras, which still can be called reform and counterreform. This is why a spokesman for the Salvadoran Government said that "if El Salvador falls, the rest of Central America falls."

It also explains why Washington has decided to help the civilian-military junta, which recommends reforms but does not accept social changes that would end the privileges of the oligarchy and all the traditional political and social values.

The situation in Guatemala is similar. The violence unleashed by the Guatemalan Armed Forces has worsened the crisis as a result of the assault on the Spanish Embassy, which took the lives of 39 persons.

Some U.S. Government spokesmen have not concealed the fact that there is no solution in Guatemala but to replace the government of Gen Romeo Lucas Garcia with another one less violent and more acceptable to the 5 million Guatemalans.

Since the fall of Anastasio Somoza, the U.S. Government has spoken frankly with the Central American countries. It was that way with the government of Carlos Humberto Romero and it is now with Romeo Lucas Garcia.

The warnings came true in El Salvador, and now we must wait and see what happens in Guatemala.

What is happening is that the revolutionary opposition in the region no longer wants reforms, nor does it want Washington to send help to destroy its combatants. Therefore there is the possibility, if Lucas Garcia falls, of another civil war like the one in El Salvador.

It is no secret that the intervention in Guatemala by United Fruit and the CIA in 1954, with the collaboration of the Honduran Government at that time, created a situation of violence that is still going on.

The Honduran Government has received similar warnings. It is necessary to implement a policy of profound reforms, but they think here that changes in the old production structures and laws in favor of human rights will be carried out by the new government after the elections. Such hope vanishes if one listens to the speeches by the National Party director and other members of the central committee of the party in power.

NICARAGUA

U.S. AGAIN DELAYS LOAN BILL DEBATE

PA261623 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Text] The reactionary Yankees have shamelessly revealed how the CIA, through the U.S. Congress, is trying to obstruct our revolutionary process. For the third time the House of Representatives has postponed its vote on the $75 million loan for Nicaragua.

Reactionary sectors in the U.S. Congress, accomplices of the crimes and pillages of the Somozas in this poor country, are trying through every possible means to block this loan which will help to reconstruct the country they helped destroy with their support of the criminal Somozist dictatorship.

Robert Lagomarsino, a Republican representative, in today's session asked for a private review of the documents submitted by the CIA, the U.S. intelligence agency, which allegedly prove the existence of Cuban and Soviet influence in our country. With wicked intent, the imperialist reactionaries in the U.S. Congress are thus setting a precedent by requesting this secret session. This is the second time this has happened in the U.S. Congress--the first time was during the discussion of the Panama Canal issue. These enemies of mankind in the Yankee government have gone so far as to submit an amendment to a bill which would allow the President of the United States to suspend the loan to Nicaragua if, in his opinion, certain freedoms, which they themselves deny, are limited in our country.

The group of reactionaries, besides Lagomarsino, include three other representatives, namely, Edward Derwinski, Bill Young and Robert Bauman, a known agent of the CIA.

The leaders of our revolution, however, have already declared that they shall never see us on our knees for a few dollars. The Sandinists neither sell themselves nor surrender. Free fatherland or death!

PAPER REJECTS CONDITIONS IMPOSED ON U.S. LOAN

PA262003 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Text] The newspaper LA PRENSA of Managua today described as blackmail the pretensions of U.S. politicians who are asking that a loan of $75 million to Nicaragua carry conditions.

These pretensions are not only a form of blackmail, but an act of stupidity, says the main portion of the paper's editorial in today's issue. We need the loan to make our reconstruction process less difficult, but if it is not forthcoming, we will still reconstruct the country, the paper's editorial maintains. We will never agree to this blackmail just as the United States would never agree to having Iran impose as a condition for the release of the U.S. hostages, for example, the demand that the United States expel all pro-shah Iranians, who under U.S. domestic legislation are refugees in that country, the paper said.

The LA PRENSA editorial states that if some incorrigible traitor indicated to Bauman that the $75 million loan should be subject to prior conditions, it would be useful for the U.S. Government, Congress and people to know that the great majority of Nicaraguans are the embodiment of Sandino's belief: We will neither sell out nor surrender; a belief, which, according to LA PRENSA, played a very important role in the struggle against the dictatorship.

The LA PRENSA newspaper was edited for a long time by newsman Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal, who was murdered by assassins paid by former dictator Anastasio Somoza, as has been revealed in the course of the trial of Chamorro's killers.

DANIEL ORTEGA VIEWS COSEP VISIT TO WASHINGTON

PA261856 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Feb 80 PA

[Interview with junta member Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra on 20 February 1980, place not given--recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] A delegation of the Superior Council of Private Enterprise [COSEP] left yesterday for the United States apparently to seek the approval of the $75-million loan. What is your opinion of this trip?

[Answer] I believe this is a very important question because the impression has been created that the COSEP will be able to get the $75 million which the Government of National Reconstruction cannot get. We want to state that this loan has been obtained by the Nicaraguan people with their attitude, heroism and their efforts for liberation. It is the Nicaraguan people who got it. We approve of the COSEP's trip and agree with its right to explain its views there. However, let it be understood that it is not COSEP which is getting the $75 million for the Nicaraguan people, but the Nicaraguan people who, by their attitude, are obtaining the loan. We have not received an official message but we take it as a fact that the loan will be granted.

[Question] I understand that Monsignor Obando y Bravo went to the capitol to reply to questions on this.

[Answer] Yes, we found out through reports that Monsignor Obando y Bravo had been in the United States and that he was asked several questions but we do not know exactly what he was asked. We expect to meet with him one of these days and discuss the matter.

[Question] What will happen if the U.S. Government rejects the loan?

[Answer] The U.S. Government would be indicating its policy of support for fascist dictatorships, its warmongering attitude and its violations of human rights. The revolution however, will continue to move forward.

[Question] What is your opinion of the military aid that the U.S. is planning to give to the Salvadoran military junta?

[Answer] We feel that the situation in El Salvador is not going to be determined by the number of cannons that the Salvadoran Army may have. It will be determined by solutions to the problems of the Salvadoran people.

NEWSMAN CHAMORRO SAYS U.S. LOAN MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL

PA270004 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 20 Feb 80 p 2 PA

["74 Millones" column by Pedro J. Chamorro B.]

[Text] This article is addressed not so much to the Nicaraguan people as to the 460 U.S. Congressmen in whose hands rests the fate of the $75-million loan which will be decided on following the debate to be held on Thursday the 21st in the U.S. Congress.

The $75 million loan has become a very important topic, perhaps eliciting more attention than it is worth. It represents the U.S. attitude toward the new Nicaraguan Government and the crisis experienced by the country as a result of the war of liberation which cost this courageous people more than 40,000 dead.

I am not the type of person who likes to explain all the ills of war by blaming U.S. imperialism. However, I cannot help but notice the U.S. support offered to the Somozist dictatorship, considered the bloodiest in America and furthermore, responsible for killing my own father.

I believe that we Nicaraguans were largely to blame through action or omission, and it is always easier to blame others than to find fault with our own attitude.

I think that the United States should realize that the $75-million loan is more than a loan. It is assistance (40-year term a 10-year grace period, at a 2 percent annual interest rate) which will directly benefit our long-suffering Nicaraguan people in generating jobs and permitting the importation of raw materials necessary for economic reactivation. It will strengthen the public as well as private sector, which has been considered essential in the economic reactivation plans of the new revolutionary government. An economic stagnation of our poor economy can only lead to a state of social deterioration, robberies, killings and anarchy, despite the efforts of our government to boost the economy and create a broader alliance of classes around the patriotic objective of national reactivation.

The United States has the opportunity to gradually erase the negative image it acquired in the past when it committed many errors in its foreign policy. And if the United States acted wrongly in the case of Cuba--isolating and imposing a blockade on Fidel Castro's government--I believe that the best way to prevent Nicaragua from becoming "a new Cuba" is to help our people and to learn from history, because it is all right to make one mistake but not to commit the same mistake twice.

I have criticized certain aspects of our revolutionary process, but admit that although there may be certain flaws and ideological differences, this is an honest government intent on the welfare of its people. This is contrary to the Somozist government, which was so corrupt that very little of the loans received actually reached the people; the largest slice was taken up by a network of administrative corruption which reached alarming levels in the period after the earthquake. I am a critic because without sincere criticism there cannot be a good government, much less a revolution because revolution entails change and in all changes there are achievements. I believe that the $75-million loan is a mutually beneficial loan: it is as beneficial for Nicaragua to receive it as it is for the United States to grant it.

NUNEZ ANNOUNCES ESTABLISHMENT OF PATRIOTIC BLOC

PA200203 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 13 Feb 80 pp 1, 12 PA

[Excerpts] Revolutionary Commander Carlos Nunez has announced the establishment of a patriotic people's bloc whose single mission will be to support and defend our Sandinist revolution.

During a seminar yesterday held at the Ernesto Castillo Salaverry political-military training school on an estate south of the capital, Commander Nunez lectured on "national unity" to 120 youths from the People's Literacy Army. Nunez said that our vanguard, the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN), is engaged in a series of talks with the Socialist Party, the Communist Party, the Peoples Social Christian Party, the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, the Independent Liberal Party and other representative forces, to establish a single bloc against the reactionaries. This "patriotic bloc will be the revolutionary expression of all the democratic, leftist and progressive parties which seek to consolidate our Sandinist process," he said.

"This bloc will become a wall against those rightist and ultraleftist organizations which, in conjunction with international reactionaries, seek to destroy our revolution," Nunez explained. The bloc will include all the democratic forces in a united effort, program and political posture that will reflect the interests of our broad popular masses. The participants in this patriotic, anti-imperialist bloc will commit themselves on 4 May to the establishment of the state council, in which all mass organizations, the church, private enterprise and the democratic forces will be represented.

Commander Nunez continued: "With the establishment of this bloc we will be building the people's expression of unity." He said, however, that the strength of this bloc rests on the workers' creative forces. This step to unity has been taken by the construction workers, members of the Union of Carpenters, Masons, Joiners and Related Workers (SCAAS), and finally, by the members of the Federation of Health Workers (FETSALUD), who rejected the gross counterrevolutionary maneuvers of the Nicaraguan Workers Central (CTN) and other small groups that, in their fantasies, seek to mislead the worker movement.

"Our vanguard, the FSLN, seeks to unite all the country's forces," Commander Nunez said. Nunez said the FSLN hopes to have other organizations join in the tasks that will bring our country out of economic, cultural and political backwardness. Nunez said that in these historic moments there are no factions within Sandinism. "We all follow a single principle," he said.

He said the revolutionary triumph against the despotic regime allowed Sandinism to be consolidated from a political and ideological viewpoint. Nunez also said: "One of the major achievements in the history of the Central American, Latin American and world revolutionary movement was the joining of all its forces in a total unity that defeated the enemy." Now our task, Nunez said, is to defend our economy, "because if we do not produce things for sale and export in order to acquire foreign exchange and purchase machinery and fertilizer, our revolution will not advance."

Nunez later referred to strengthening our resources for the defense of the revolution including: the Sandinist Peoples Army, the Sandinist National Police and the security organizations. Those resources, with roots within the people, will defend us against counterrevolutionary aggression and will give us peace within our existing system that was won in the revolutionary struggle against Somoza.

Nunez also spoke of the need for the national bourgeoisie to be "united under a single leadership," in order that it may participate in the tasks of our revolution, not to defend individual interests, but to contribute to the process.

Finally, Commander Nunez told the young cultural guerrillas of the EPA that they will be fulfilling a mission of their vanguard, the FSLN. "In this campaign, you will demonstrate your worthiness to be members of the 19 July Sandinist Youth," he said. He added: "This will be a sacrifice, a test for you teachers." He said they will graduate as outstanding members of the 19 July Youth and will also be an important factor in the consolidation of mass organizations.

It should be noted that 120 companeros from Boaco, Esteli, Jinotega, Matagalpa, Leon, Managua, Dario, Niquinohomo, Sebaco, Madriz, San Isidro and La Concepcion are receiving exhaustive training at the political-military training school. The youths, of both sexes, are being instructed in political and historical aspects of the true Nicaraguan experience. The seminars are being given by our top Sandinist leaders.

PANAMANIAN LABOR LEADER INTERVIEWED ON CANAL TREATIES

PA260330 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Nestor Nunez interview with Humberto Blandon, leader of the Panama Petroleum Workers Union, date not given--recorded]

[Text] Humberto Blandon, leader of the Panama Petroleum Workers Union [UTPP], is in Havana participating in the ninth course for Latin American and Caribbean unionists, which is being held at the Central Organization of Cuban Workers' Lazaro Pena school.

Interviewed by reporter Nestor Nunez, Blandon first discussed the Panamanian workers' stand on the implementation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties. [begin recording]

[Blandon] As the vanguard class of the Panamanian people, the labor movement positively endorsed General Torrijos Herrera's struggle despite the fact that the Torrijos-Carter treaties neither reflect our people's aspirations nor represent a great advance.

After analyzing the path chosen by General Torrijos to negotiate as well as the consequences of this action, we workers decided to offer our final support because a date was being set on how long U.S. imperialism would remain in our country. This means that in the year 2000 U.S. imperialism must leave Panama.

But as General Torrijos has correctly stated, this will be a generational struggle because the generation of the year 2000 will have to finally eradicate imperialism and behave in such a way as to make the latter take its claws out of our country.

But the most arduous battle is being waged now. It is an internal battle because the workers and the more conscientious students, who have traditionally shed their blood in the struggle to recover our land, have always expressed their desire that the land that reverts to Panama be put to collective use. This means that it is neither correct nor just that after our people fiercely struggled to eliminate U.S. imperialism from our land, that the bourgeoisie should today be the one to seize the best land reverting to our country and take control of our new activities.

We have said a bitter struggle is currently underway because, although the bourgeoisie has never had a historic participation in our struggle, it is organizing itself best and is already preparing to receive the best benefits. This might lead to an internal struggle because our people are determined that the land reverting to our country should be collectively used.

[Nunez] The Panamanian people have historically supported the Sandinist revolution, which has already achieved victory. What is the Panamanian workers' stand on the struggles being waged by other Central American peoples, such as those in El Salvador and Guatemala, where extremely explosive revolutionary situations can already be seen?

[Answer] The Panamanian workers' stand on the national liberation struggles currently being waged by the Central American and Latin American peoples, and even by the African peoples, is very conscientious. We say this because we are supporting these causes with determination, even in symbolic ways. We are constantly sponsoring forums and conferences in an effort to give our solidarity and support to all our brothers who are fighting for their national liberation.

[Question] How would you describe your stay in Cuba in this school for union cadres?

[Answer] Our stay here--mine and that of my companion Jose Abraham Gutierrez from the banana plantations--is something we value highly. Our 3 months here are very important. We feel great satisfaction over this chance to see for ourselves what a revolution is and to see what the revolutionary process that has led the Cuban people for the past 20 years is like.

Cuba is a source of great pride for us and has set a great example. We say it has set a great example because U.S. imperialism imposed a blockade on the Cuban people. The latter emerged like the phoenix and, rising through tenacious work, constructed a new type of society, the type of society that we as conscientious workers feel workers all over the world should live in. [end recording]

UN AMBASSADOR URGES SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL

FL261239 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Feb 80 FL

[Text] The nonalined countries movement has urged the UN Security Council to fulfill its responsibilities by applying the sanctions outlined in the UN Charter against Israel.

On behalf of the group of nonalined countries in the United Nations, Cuban Ambassador Raul Kouri exhorted the members of the UN Security Council not to ignore the just demands of the Arab and Palestinian peoples, who are being oppressed by the Israeli occupation.

Other speakers who criticized Israel were the representatives of the League of Arab States, Tunisia, Syria, Yugoslavia, Jordan and Senegal, the latter in his capacity of president ad interim of the Committee for Palestinian Rights.

PARTICIPATION IN WORLD CONGRESS OF ECONOMISTS ANNOUNCED

FL261312 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1211 GMT 26 Feb 80 FL

[Text] Our country will actively participate in the sixth world congress of the International Association of Economists to take place in Mexico next August, Laureano Leon, president of the National Association of Cuban Economists, has declared to Radio Reloj. In an exclusive interview, Leon added that the congress will take up an important agenda for developing countries and, very especially, for Latin America. One of the agenda's topics is "National Human Resources, Their Use and Development."

Laureano Leon noted that Cuba assigns great importance to economic problems and that at the present time the documents to be submitted by our country to the congress are being prepared. The invitation to attend the congress was extended by the president of Mexico's Association of Economists, Manuel Aguilera Gomez, who visited our country in a tour of the American Continent.

U.S. PURPORTEDLY SENDING ARMS TO EL SALVADOR

PA250402 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Feb 80 PA

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The United States has been repeatedly accused recently of directly intervening in El Salvador, a country which, according to a Salvadoran communist leader, U.S. imperialism would prefer to plunge into a bloodbath rather than accept a new revolutionary transformation in Central America.

These accusations have been confirmed by Mexican journalist Mario Menendez Rodriguez, a special PRENSA LATINA (PRELA) reporter who was in El Salvador for several weeks. This has enabled him to report to the world on developments taking place in that country.

In a lengthy report on the subject, Menendez Rodriguez says that the appointment of Ambassador Robert White, Paraguayan tyrant Alfredo Stroessner's adviser for several years and a specialist in the counterrevolutionary struggle; the visits by William Bowdler, joint U.S. Secretary of State for inter-American affairs; and the arrival in San Salvador of quite a few Pentagon officials, have coincided with the incorporation of thousands of U.S., Somozist, Saigonese and Guatemalan mercenaries and Cuban counterrevolutionaries into the ranks of the private armies used by the Salvadoran oligarchy to preserve their privileges with the most flagrant terror.

The PRELA reporter also reports that a clandestine supreme command center, in which U.S. advisers participate, not only coordinates the operations of those private armies, but those of the Salvadoran regime's institutional repressive bodies.

Week after week, Menendez Rodriguez states, huge arms shipments arrive from Miami and Guatemala, and Ilopango International Airport shifts its civilian activities to Comalapa Airport in order to become a strategic air force center. It recently received several dozen armed helicopters that will be used in the counterrevolutionary struggle from the United States. In addition, with the Honduran regime's approval, the U.S. Government has mined the main roads along the Honduran border with El Salvador and Nicaragua in an effort to keep any foreign assistance from reaching the Salvadoran revolutionaries.

Undoubtedly, the Mexican journalist reports, El Salvador is the U.S. strategic piece in the Central American political domino game. Should that country extricate itself from the imperialist claw, it would drag behind it both Guatemala and Honduras. But if the Salvadoran revolutionary movement is defeated in the decisive clashes that will take place in the coming months, then the armed forces of international neo-fascism would intervene in Nicaragua.

According to Menendez, the possibility that Salvadoran developments may lead Washington to carry out a direct military intervention in Agustin Farabundo Marti's fatherland should not be dismissed. In the event of such an attack, Menendez adds, Guatemalan and Honduran armies would participate either alongside or followed later by the special U.S. operational divisions stationed in the Caribbean.

Menendez finally recalls that in 1932 a popular insurrection, which was crushed by Gen Maximiliano Hernandez' regime, took place in El Salvador. The amount of blood shed in the course of that attempt to achieve freedom, democracy, independence and social justice was inordinately high--more than 30,000 dead including peasants, students, workers, and people of other social classes. Since then, he stresses, Latin America in particular, and the world's progressive peoples and governments in general, have had a pending debt of solidarity with the heroic Salvadoran people, whose just and formidable struggle--after almost 50 years and for the same objectives as in 1932--is today entering its decisive stages.

CORRECTION TC COMMENTARY: CARTER 'CHAMPION OF MILITARISM'

The following is a correction to the item entitled "Commentator Calls Carter 'Champion of Militarism'", published in the 22 February Latin America DAILY REPORT, page Q 1: last paragraph, lines four and five, substitute the word "intervention" [intervencion] for the word "Deployment".

CARICOM SEEKS COHESION IN FOREIGN POLICY

FL251103 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 20 Feb 80 p 9 FL

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 19 Feb (CANA)--Overseas missions of member countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) are to institutionalise arrangements for fostering closer co-operation in foreign policy matters.

This has been announced here by CARICOM Secretary General Dr Kurleigh King, following a decision by the region's foreign ministers to widen consultation procedures and deepen co-operation in this field.

The decision was taken at this month's St Lucia meeting of the CARICOM foreign ministers, and according to Dr King, the region's overseas missions will now be moving away from sporadic, informal meetings on pressing issues.

He said, in a weekend statement, that these missions will be trying in future to meet quite regularly with specific agenda items to try to iron out differences between them before they meet with the rest of the international community in the relevant forums.

He added that the overseas missions would report back to their respective countries and to the CARICOM secretariat "so that we, becoming aware of the nature of the discussions, will be able to feed into the standing committee of foreign ministers issues which continue to be difficult."

Referring to media speculation on "ideological pluralism and non-alignment" before the St Lucia meeting, the CARICOM secretary general said the ministerial talks did not focus specifically on these issues.

He noted the ministers' conclusions that ideological pluralism did not pose any real threat to the preservation of the CARICOM relationship and added that the community had to get used to the fact that everybody in the grouping would not always look at the world in the same way or vote the same way. Ideological pluralism was a fact of international relations, Dr King said.

He pointed to CARICOM unanimity in relations with the European Economic Community, the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group and the Organisation of American States and on issues like the Belizean question and Jamaica's dealings with the International Monetary Fund to reinforce the contention that the recent CARICOM division of Afghanistan issue in the United Nations did not pose a threat to the relationship among member countries.

CARICOM countries in the main condemned the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in the UN. Grenada voted in favour of the Russians.

The CARICOM secretary general described the coordination of foreign policy by member states of the regional grouping as one of the remarkable successes of CARICOM and said there was an amazing "consistency and uniformity" of the voting by member states in international forums over the last five years.

He was also sure that there would be occasions in the future when CARICOM countries would not be able to vote unanimously.

ANTIGUA

GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS MOSCOW OLYMPIC BOYCOTT

FL262046 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 26 Feb 80 FL

[Text] The Antiguan Government is supporting U.S. President Jimmy Carter's call for a boycott of the Moscow Olympics to protest against the Soviet military involvement in Afghanistan. Antigua's minister of education and culture, (Rupert Harris), who also has responsibility for sports, told reporters that cabinet had decided not to give any financial support to sportsmen wishing to go to the Moscow Olympics. Mr (Harris) said that he hoped that the Antiguan Olympic Association would take the government's attitude into consideration. However, no member of the association was available for comment.

In the past, Antiguan athletes have been only able to attend international sports meetings with substantial financial assistance from government.

Mr (Harris) added that the government endorsed the remarks of Deputy Premier Lester Bird to the eighth Caribbean Common Market meeting in Antigua last month that the Soviet march into Afghanistan was a demonstration of the worst kind of dominance that small countries such as those in the Caribbean could fear.

GRENADA

PRIME MINISTER BISHOP MAKES BRIEF VISIT TO JAMAICA

FL260235 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2230 GMT 25 Feb 80 FL

[Summary from poor reception] Grenada's Prime Minister Maurice Bishop left the island a short while ago. During his visit he held a private talk with Prime Minister Manley at Jamaica House. Mr Bishop brought Mr Manley up to date on the progress being made in Grenada. The talks also covered developments in the region and Grenada's first anniversary celebrations. Shortly before leaving the island, Mr Bishop also held talks with Security Minister Dudley Thompson.

Reaffirms Nonalinement Policy

FL261851 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1730 GMT 26 Feb 80 FL

[Text] Prime Minister Maurice Bishop of Grenada has said that the United States must know now that [words indistinct] seen as the most important area of the world by developing countries. He said his country believes that there were other areas of the world which were as important, and, in many respects, more important than the United States. For example, the prime minister said, the Middle Eastern countries were emerging as the determining factor in the economies of the world at this time.

Mr Bishop was speaking in an interview with JBC [Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation] news during a stopover yesterday on his way home from a three-nation Latin American tour.

He said nonalinement was the principle being adhered to by his government and this meant broadening contacts with Third World countries and othernations all over the globe. Mr Bishop said that it was for this reason that his government was sending so many missions abroad and will continue to do so.

GUAYANA

WPA CHARGES PNC WITH PLANNING ASSASSINATIONS

FL262054 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 26 Feb 80 FL

[Excerpt] The opposition Working People's Alliance in Guyana has produced photostat copies of two documents which the WPA said showed plans by the ruling People's National Congress to assassinate leading WPA activists. The documents were displayed at the news conference called yesterday by the WPA and they referred to the issuing of arms and ammunition to a House of Israel cult and plans for fatal attacks on known WPA members. The party also reported the shooting of two of its activists within the past week. However, the Guyanese Infomation Ministry today refuted the authenticity of the documents displayed by the WPA describing them as being unquestionably bogus.

MEXICO

PLANE CARRYING ARMS FOR SALVADORAN REBELS CRASHES

PA251621 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1512 GMT 25 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Tampico, Mexico, 25 Feb (LATIN)--A light plane loaded with weapons for the Salvadoran revolutionary movement crashed into a house as it was about to land at a local airport.

The pilot died in the crash and the house was gutted by fire, police sources cited by the Mexico City newspaper EXCELSIOR reported today. According to the report, the plane was carrying 15 submachineguns, ammunition and subversive propaganda.

SURINAME

COUP SAID STAGED DUE TO ARRON'S 'INCOMPETENCE'

PA261449 Paris AFP in English 1358 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Text] The Hague, Feb 26 (AFP)--Army officers have seized power in Suriname in a military coup in which at least eight people died, the national military council has announced.

The new regime claimed in a televised announcement last night to control the capital and border cities of Albina and Nickerie, as well as major airports, telecommunication headquarters and radio and television broadcasts, the SURINAME NEWS AGENCY said in a report received here today. The military council of eight officers said it took over because of the incompetence of Prime Minister Henk Arron, who had led the country since its independence from the Netherlands on November 25, 1975. There was no news of Mr. Arron's whereabouts.

The coup d'etat, which involved about 300 military personnel, started Sunday night when the rebel soldiers stormed the Membre Boco Barracks outside the capital, seizing arms and ammunition. Eight people died during the mutiny, the SNA said. But other sources put the casualties at at least 15. The new rulers launched a series of arrests of civilian and police personnel.

The new leadership, which has declared willingness to collaborate with the people to energetically improve the country's social and economic situation, pledged to respect all basic human rights. But there would be legal action against those opposing the councils objectives, it warned. The council is also to take action to end the mass emigration of Surinamese people, mainly to the Netherlands, where about 140,000 Surinamese are living. All schools will be closed today and gatherings were banned, the SNA said.

Wage Demands Cited

PA261519 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1302 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Text] The Hague, 26 Feb (EFE)--A wage increase request by noncommissioned officers prompted the coup d'etat in Suriname. There had been unrest among the sergeants for several days and the crisis erupted in the wake of the arrest by police of some members of the Noncommissioned Officers Association.

Some 24 hours following the incident, the SURINAME NEWS AGENCY reported a toll of six dead, but also said that calm prevailed following the military coup.

In a telephone interview with Netherlands television, Jaggernath Lachmon, head of the Surinamese opposition, said the situation in Paramaribo, the capital of the former Netherlands Guyana, is calm. Asked about rumors of the departure of Prime Minister Henck Arron to French Guyana, he replied he had heard nothing to confirm or deny the rumor.

After the interview carried in the last newscast last night, all telecommunications and telephone lines connecting Suriname and the Netherlands were cut. No member of Henck Arron's moderate government has been seen in public in recent hours and, in fact, their whereabouts are unknown according to the SURINAME NEWS AGENCY.

The same agency reported that former military men and soldiers who had not participated in the initial rebellion had joined the coup. The coupists, who rose up against the government's decision to prohibit the forming of a noncommissioned officers organization, as well as to arrest its proponents, have now arrested som of their superior officers. In the recent dispatches reaching The Hague, the SURINAME NEWS AGENCY does not dismiss the possibility that some ministers and some magistrates may be among the prisoners held by the sergeants.

The rebel militarymen have occupied the arms depot and are patrolling the streets to prevent any possible looting, replacing the civilian police, who appear to be on the government's side, in this task.

Henck Arron's overthrown government took power following the November 1975 independence.

Ministers Reported Arrested

FL261554 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Feb 80 FL

[Text] The new military leaders in Suriname have set up an eight-man military council in the country. The military council says it will hand over administrative matters to the civilian government.

A number of politicians, including the ministers of finance and justice and police as well as the chief public prosecutor, have been arrested.

Meanwhile, there is still no word on the whereabouts of the ousted prime minister, Henck Arron, but the council said on television last night that he was not in the capital of Paramaribo. Reports coming out of Suriname say life has returned to normal but schools have remained closed. The coup leaders have pledged their commitment to democratic principles. Seven people were reported killed an an estimated 42 injured yesterday in the coup which toppled the government of Prime Minister Henck Arron. The police headquarters was burnt down and the army headquarters captured during the soldiers revolt.

The Dutch Government has said it regrets the loss of lives but would not stop development aid to Suriname. Suriname is a former Dutch colony.

Council Issues Declaration

PA262053 Paramaribo SNA in Spanish 2007 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Text] Paramaribo, 26 Feb (SNA)--The national military council issued the following statement yesterday, 25 February:

In the name of the sovereign Republic of Suriname, the national military council declares that today it has decided to take over the [words indistinct] and other functions of importance in the broadest sense of the word.

All inhabitants of Suriname are called upon to behave with rectitude--without regard to race, religious belief, political affiliation or occupation--and be available to serve the process of social, economic and moral reorientation of the Republic of Suriname, as well as its development.

The statement adds that matters would not have come to the point of the present state of affairs--a coup d'etat:

1. if healthy commonsense had prevailed over hatred and arrogance;

2. if the chief of the Suriname military forces had not chosen a criminal form of confrontation against the military who were protesting;

3. if the corresponding authorities had heeded the military's many requests to hold talks that would have led to the solution of the existing problems.

In a subsequent portion of its statement, the national military council says it itends to respect (?wholly) and fully the basic democratic principles of Suriname's constitutional status. It also calls on all inhabitants to strictly obey its orders.

The declaration ends by saying:

The national military council states only that in every step it takes, primary consideration will be given to the national interests of all of Suriname's people.

Civilian Administration Seen

PA262032 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1821 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[By Scott Thornton]

[Excerpts] The Hague, 26 Feb (LATIN-REUTER)--The military group that assumed power in Suriname will transfer the administrative affairs to civilian functionaries and, according to information released, they are discussing the creation of a broad civilian-based government.

According to information released last night over the Suriname radio and television network, the military group is preparing the installation of a civilian council to take charge of some administrative affairs. The possible creation of this body was not clear, but Netherlands Government sources here said President Johan Ferrier could play a key role in a future cabinet of national unity. The same sources noted that Ferrier, 69, is still in his Paramaribo Palace and his appeal for peace issued last night was evidently received with much attention by the population of some 350,000 persons. The communique was signed jointly by Ferrier, who has been a respected president since Suriname became independent from the Netherlands in 1975, by Deputy Prime Minister Olton Van Genderen and by opposition leader Jaggernath Lachmon.

The SURINAME NEWS AGENCY, apparently reflecting the viewpoints of the rebels, today criticized what it described as stubborn refusal by Arron to agree to the formation of a broad-based government, following the premature call to elections for 27 March. It also called for an end to the practice of forming cabinets exclusively directed by a close-knit parliamentary majority, as has been the case in recent years.

Border Reported Calm

PA261509 Paris AFP in Spanish 1410 GMT 26 Feb 80 PA

[Text] St Laurent du Maroni, French Guiana, 26 Feb (AFP)--The situation was quiet and normal today in Albina, on the other side of the Maroni River, where the ferry which joins the former Netherlands Guyana with St Laurent remained anchored. The army is apparently in control of Albina, 140 km from Paramaribo, the capital.

Regarding the military coup of 25 February, contradictory rumors were spread last night reporting that the justice minister and the attorney general had been executed. These rumors were subsequently denied.

There has been no flow of refugees to French Guiana so far. Only one important Surinamese personality, an army leiutenant, and seven policemen have sought refuge here. They were given shelter in St Louis, near St Laurent.

First Civilians Named

PA271426 Paris AFP in Spanish 1238 GMT 27 Feb 80 PA

[Text] The Hague, 27 Feb (AFP)--The CNM (National Military Council) which took power Monday in Suriname, has charged two lawyers with the task of organizing a civilian council which will take over government functions, it was learned here today. This information was supplied by the SURINAME NEWS AGENCY. It noted that this council will be under the supervision of the CNM and recalled that both lawyers, Frank Leeflang and Eddy Bruma, played an important role in the conflict which opposed the army and the authorities.

Two members of the cabinet of Henck Arron, who was overthrown on Monday, O. Van Genderen (former vice minister) and S. Badrising (justice and police) have appealed to the people to submit to the authority of the CNM.

Meanwhile, the CNM announced that the elections scheduled for 27 March will be held as soon as the socioeconomic situation permits it and issued an appeal for the return of 140,000 citizens who have emigrated to the Netherlands. The citizens, who represent 1 percent of the 14 million persons that inhabit the Netherlands, had established themselves in this country where there were favorable economic conditions prior to Suriname's independence in 1975.